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Deudraeth Rural District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

REPORT FOR

1956.

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DEUDRAETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1956.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Deudraeth Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Health Report for the year ending 31st December, 1956.

The Registrar General's mid year estimation of population remained at the same figure as in the previous 2 years, viz: 6,640.

There were 3 fewer live births and 4 fewer deaths than in 1955 and the gap between births and deaths, therefore, remained much the same as in the previous year. The cumulative effect of this in years to come will be serious, unless this tendency is reversed.

Infant mortality figures showed an improvement on the year before, being halved (2 as opposed to 4).

Deaths from cancer were 4 more than in 1955.

Deaths from Tuberculosis were increased to 4. All in the higher age groups.

New notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were considerably decreased (from 17 to 9) and in this case also the preponderance occurred in the higher age groups.

There were epidemics of whooping cough and measles during the year.

No cases of food poisoning were notified.

I wish to thank Mr. R. O. Hughes for his co-operation during the year.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS

District Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Rural District 75,493 acres.

Rateable Value. £55,354.

Population (Registrar General's figures) 6,640.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate. £212

Number of inhabited houses (According to the Rate Books) at end of year. 2,534

COMPARABILITY FACTORS.

Births	1.18
Deaths	0.76

VITAL STATISTICS.

Nett Births (Live and Still)	-	95
Births (Live)	-	93
Births (Still)	-	2

LIVE BIRTHS RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION. 14.01.

LIVE BIRTHS. 93

	Males	Females.
Total	50	43
Legitimate	47	39
Illegitimate	3	4

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of Total Live Births) - 7.53%.

DEATHS:

Total Number - 107

Males - 50. Females - 57.

Rate per 1,000 population	-	16.11
1955 figures	-	16.75

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

	Total Males	Total Females.
Total		2
Legitimate		2
Illegitimate		-

Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000 Live Births)	-	21.51
1955 figures	-	41.67
Deaths of Legitimate Infants Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	-	21.51
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS.

	Males.	Females.
Total		1
Legitimate		1
Illegitimate		-

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy - Nil

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

Total - 21

Rate per 1,000 population - 3.16

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Total - 4

Rate per 1,000 population - 0.60

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

One Medical Officer of Health.
One Sanitary Inspector.

(2) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Water Analysis (Chemical) carried out by Mr. Harold Lowe, Public Analyst, Chester.
Water Analysis (Bacteriological) and milk examination for cleanliness and keeping quality by the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.

(3) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

One Ambulance stationed at Penrhyndeudraeth.

(4) INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Penrhyndeudraeth - held fortnightly in the Aelwyd Building.
Harlech - held monthly at the Free Library.
Trawsfynydd - held monthly at the Congregational Chapel Vestry.

(5) ANTE NATAL CLINICS.

Held at the Out-patients' Department, Memorial Hospital, Blaenau Ffestiniog, every two weeks.

(6) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

Held fortnightly at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(7) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

Held every week at the Clinic, Wynne Road, Blaenau Ffestiniog.

(8) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health.
Immunisation of babies and young children carried out at the Primary School.

(9) HOSPITALS.

There is no Hospital situated in the area.

(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year - 46.

Scarlet Fever	-	1
Bacillary Dysentry	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	15
Measles	-	30
Infantile Paralysis	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES.

Pulmonary — Total - 9
Males 6 Females 3

Nonpulmonary — Total -
Males - Females -

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS.

Pulmonary — Total - 4
Males 4 Females -

Nonpulmonary — Total -
Males - Females -

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1956 IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
2								
5								
10								
15		1						
20		2						
25								
35								
45	1							
55	3				1			
65	1				2			
75+	1				+1			

CAUSES OF DEATH 1956.

	M.	F
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	4	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Cancer Stomach	2	1
" Lungs	2	-
" Breast	-	3
" Uterus	-	2
" Other Sites.	5	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	10
Coronary diseases, angina	5	2
Hypertension with heart disease	2	4
Other heart disease	11	11
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1
Other circulatory disease	2	2

Bronchitis	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	1	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2
Hyperphasia of Prostate	4	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	9
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	2	-
TOTAL	50	57

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

One case was removed to hospital in 1956 under the provisions of this Act.

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GENERAL SANITARY CONDITIONS.

The Council has its own water supply schemes for the various villages and hamlets, but water is purchased in bulk for Llanbedr and Garreg, Llanfrothen.

MAINS: Total length throughout district is 27¾ miles.
Water is supplied into 1,360 houses.
48 houses are supplied by standpipe.

Burst mains occurred and repairs were effected expeditiously. A considerable number of leaks in private service pipes were detected at Llanbedr, which resulted in the daily consumption being reduced from 36,000 gallons to 19,000 gallons per day.

Work was carried out to the Talsarnau Filters, i.e. new media and sand placed in filters. The amount of sand in the Trawsfynydd Filters was reduced.

The Council once again gave further consideration to the idea of supplementing the Harlech Water supply from Llyn Eiddew Mawr.

METERS: Total number of Meters to 31/12/56. 77

Harlech and Llanfair	- 35
Talsarnau	- 21
Maentwrog & Gellilydan	- 5
Trawsfynydd	- 6
Llanfrothen	- 10

Number of new Meters fixed during the year 1956 - 21

NEW CONNECTIONS: Total number of new Connections during the year - 30

WATER SAMPLES:

Constant sampling for bacteriological analysis is undertaken, also chemical sampling in certain circumstances.

Total number of Bacteriological Samples - 22
Total number of Chemical Samples - 3

SEWERAGE.

Work was completed on the second stage of the improved scheme at Harlech, i.e. new pump house with 3 centrifugal pumps and 3 three-phase 12½ H.P. Electric Motors, also Sewage Disposal Works by the sea-shore.

The Council considered a scheme for the village of Bronaber.

Steps were taken to ensure that houses throughout the district were connected to the Council's Sewers.

Trawsfynydd.

A further 18 houses connected to the sewer.

Llanfair.

All remaining 14 houses that could connect to sewer have now done so.

Talsarnau.

One house connected to sewer.

Penrhyn.

Two houses to connect to sewer.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

New Public Conveniences were completed at Minffordd. The Council gave further consideration to new conveniences at Bronaber, Gellilydan, Maentwrog, Harlech, Llandanwg and Llanfrothen. The conveniences at Penrhyn were painted.

PARKING GROUNDS:

The Council received plans for a parking ground at Llanbedr, also plans for an extension of existing parking ground at Llandanwg. Consideration was given to providing two additional parking grounds at Harlech, also a parking ground at Maentwrog.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Weekly domestic collection undertaken by Council's own vehicle. Several requests made to collect from additional properties and the Council agreed.

20 additional Litter Baskets were fixed throughout the district.

All refuse sites received attention and were tidied up, also access road to Penrhyn Refuse Tip was repaired.

Consideration was given to a new Refuse Site by Cae Nest, Llanbedr, but this site was refused planning permission by the County Planning Committee.

Refuse collection at the hamlet of Croesor is done by Contract.

RODENT CONTROL:

This service is carried out jointly with Ffestiniog U.D.C. a full time officer being employed by both districts. Owing to the sudden death of Mr. David Roberts, who had served both Councils well, the Joint Rodent Committee had to appoint a new Operator. There were 10 applicants and on the 3rd May, 1956, the Committee appointed Mr. R. J. Williams.

Refuse Tips, Sewers, Dwelling houses and Business Premises are inspected and treated regularly.

DISINFECTING.

Disinfecting of infective premises were undertaken by fumigating and spraying.

HOUSING:

Work was completed in respect of constructing 16 Council Houses at Harlech, 4 houses at Soar , 3 houses at Maentwrog and 8 at Llanfair and also 6 garages at Llanbedr.

The Council gave further consideration to the building of houses at Llanbedr, Gellilydan and Penrhyn.

Further progress was made in respect of the 170 houses represented to the Council under the Slum Clearance Programme.

A survey of the 254 Council Houses was carried out and the necessary repairs and maintenance carried out.

HOUSING ACT, 1949.

Further steady progress was made in respect of improving properties throughout the district.

Total number of applications approved during 1956 - 13
Total number of applications approved to 31st December, 1956 - 58

PLANS AND BYE-LAW APPLICATIONS:

Total number of applications - 98
Total number approved - 97
Total number refused - 1

The following inspections were carried out during the year:

Houses - Public Health Acts	221
Houses - Housing Acts	661
Compaaints investigated	66
Factories	3
Infectious Disease Cases	1
Rodent destruction	63
Shops	2
Bakehouses	3
Tinned Foods and other articles of food	21
Houses Disinfected	5
Water Samples	20
Miscellaneous	132
Total	1198

Signed ... R. O. HUGHES

Public Health Inspector/Surveyor.

April, 1957.

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